

10/757,313
A.M. 12/4/07

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line ³ with the following amended paragraph:

For example, the word "data" (with a leading and trailing blank space) can be parsed into the following set of bi-grams: _d, da, at, ta, and a_; and tri-grams: _da, dat, ata, and ta_; and quad-grams: _dat, data, ata_. Generally, a word of length "k", padded with a preceding and trailing blank, will have k-n+3 consecutive overlapping n-grams--k+1 bi-grams, k tri-grams, k-1 quad-grams, and so on. Other types of n-grams that can alternatively or conjointly be used by this method such as anchored n-grams or replacement-type n-grams are described below. Upon parsing the textual passage into a plurality of n-grams 204, the total number of resulting n-grams is calculated and stored 206. One such method of calculating and storing the number of n-grams is disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 5,062,143, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

The frequency with which each n-gram appears in the n-gram language database is thereafter divided by the total number of n-grams in the n-gram language database 214. The resulting quotient is equal to the n-gram's initial ~~weighing factor~~ weighting factor 222. Thus, an initial weighting factor is assigned to each parsed n-gram, as that n-gram relates to a particular language. In order to assign another initial weighting factor to that same n-gram, as the n-gram relates to other languages, the parsed n-gram is compared to another language database that includes n-grams representative of that other language. That is, the process of steps 208, 210, 212, 214 and 216 is repeated for each language with which the n-gram is compared. Parsed n-grams can be compared to all relevant and/or available language databases such that each n-gram is individually compared to all language databases sequentially or the parsed n-grams can be sequentially compared to the language databases as an entire group.